

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule, comprising a sequence of nucleotides that encodes a rhesus monkey BRS-3 protein as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 2. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.

Claim 3. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is mRNA.

Claim 4. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is cDNA.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 wherein the sequence of nucleotides comprises ~~the a~~ sequence of nucleotides as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 6. (Original) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

Claim 7. (Original) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 6.

Claim 8. (Original) A subcellular membrane fraction obtained from the host cell of claim 7 which contains recombinant rhesus monkey BRS-3 protein.

Claim 9. (Original) A process for expressing a rhesus monkey BRS-3 protein in a recombinant host cell, comprising:

- (a) introducing a vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 1 into a suitable host cell; and,
- (b) culturing the host cell under conditions which allow expression of said rhesus monkey BRS-3 protein.

Claim 10. (Original) An isolated and purified rhesus monkey BRS-3 polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acids as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying compounds that modulate rhesus monkey bombesin receptor subtype-3 (BRS-3) expression, comprising contacting a test compound with the BRS-3 protein of claim 10 rhesus monkey bombesin receptor subtype-3, and determining whether the test compound interacts with rhesus monkey bombesin receptor subtype-3.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A method for determining whether a substance is capable of binding to rhesus monkey BRS-3 (rhBRS-3) comprising:

- (a) providing test cells by transfecting cells with the an expression vector of claim 6 that directs the expression of rhBRS-3 in the cells;
- (b) exposing the test cells to the substance;
- (c) measuring the amount of binding of the substance to rhBRS-3; and,
- (d) comparing the amount of binding of the substance to rhBRS-3 in the test cells with the amount of binding of the substance to control cells that have not been transfected with rhBRS-3.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a substance which modulates rhBRS-3 receptor activity, comprising:

- (a) combining a test substance in the presence and absence of the rhesus monkey BRS-3 protein of claim 10 a rhBRS-3 receptor protein wherein said rhBRS-3 receptor protein comprises the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2; and,
- (b) measuring and comparing the effect of the test substance in the presence and absence of the rhBRS-3 receptor protein.

Claim 14. (Original) A method for determining whether a substance is a potential agonist or antagonist of rhBRS-3 comprising:

- (a) transfecting or transforming cells with the expression vector of claim 6, resulting in test cells;
- (b) allowing the test cells to grow for a time sufficient to allow rhBRS-3 to be expressed;
- (c) exposing the cells to a labeled ligand of rhBRS-3 in the presence and in the absence of the substance; and,
- (d) measuring the binding of the labeled ligand to rhBRS-3; where if the amount of binding of the labeled ligand is less in the presence of the substance than in the absence of the substance, then the substance is a potential agonist or antagonist of rhBRS-3.